

That Golden Touch to the Arches in Russia

by Marshall Ingwerson

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When the first McDonald's opened in Moscow in 1990, it was the first direct, personal experience for tens of thousands of Soviets with the Western way of customer service. "It was the most enjoyable day of my life," recalls a young television editor, Olga Golovina, of her first visit. Now she eats lunch nearly every day at a McDonald's near her daughter's school.

In those days, the company was an island of efficiency and quality control in a dysfunctional, state-controlled universe. It supplied itself with everything from beef to milk from its own McComplex near Moscow, and 40 percent of McDonald's employees here were from the West.

The novelty of the Golden Arches on Pushkin Square has long worn off. And although Americans don't usually think of this fast-food chain as one of their highest contributions to world civilization, the impact in Russia of

McDonald's has continued to spread and deepen. Now McDonald's has 10 restaurants in Moscow and two new ones in St. Petersburg. Of its 3,500 employees in Russia, only four remain non-Russians.

Every day, more than 100,000 people eat at a McDonald's in Moscow; company officials claim the original one is the busiest restaurant in the world. (The new McDonald's in Beijing is physically larger, but serves fewer people per day.) The company is no longer a self-contained system selling burgers and fries to Russians. More than 100 companies in the former Soviet Union now supply the growing empire of McDonald's in Russia. "Step by step, they grow with us," says Pavel Ryabov, marketing director for McDonald's in Russia.

And the McDonald's example has not been lost on the locals. A Russian fast-food chain, Russkoye Bistro, was launched by Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov in 1995 following directly in McDonald's footsteps. Instead of burgers and Coca-Cola, Russkoye Bistro sells meat pastries and kvas, a yeasty traditional soft drink. Service is quick, prices are well below McDonald's and more than 100 Russkoye Bistro outlets serve 35,000 to 40,000 people a day. "If McDonald's had not come to our country, then we probably wouldn't be here," says Vladimir Pivovarov, deputy director of Russkoye Bistro. McDonald's "caused alarm among local authorities to create something of our own."

Olga Golovina, sitting with a friend in a McDonald's dining room, takes national pride that Russians answered McDonald's in a Russian style. "I'm

always thinking that we're good fellows because we showed that we're not worse than McDonald's," she says.

"McDonald's helped give form to the new economy," says Mr. Pivovarov. Since McDonald's arrived, he says, he has seen Russians "become better at choosing. They want Western standards of quality and taste."

If McDonald's has been a model of capitalism, it has also become a source of growing business for its developing network of suppliers. Here in a rough-edged suburb outside of Moscow, Belaya Dacha is an expansive farm with 148 acres of greenhouses and 2,000 pigs. It became a Soviet state farm in 1946 and for a couple of decades was the sort of model enterprise toured by foreign delegations. Then other farms took over as the models, got the latest foreign technology, and Belaya Dacha was stuck with noncompetitive Soviet equipment. Now it is fully revived as a closed joint-stock company that delivers lettuce washed and cut, ready to slap on a Big Mac two hours after it is picked.

McDonald's is Belaya Dacha's biggest customer. The agribusiness tripled its sales to McDonald's last year and expects to at least double sales this year, says General Manager Viktor Semyonov. McDonald's is considering putting ready-made salads on the menu, and if Belaya Dacha wins a contract for that business too, its sales could triple or quadruple this year.

Belaya Dacha has grown savvy rather than larger with its expanding McDonald's business. It has no more greenhouses than during its Soviet days as a state farm. But productivity has doubled since 1989, says Mr.

Inside OSEEN

Andrei Sinyavsky remembered	2
Jared Ingersoll departs OSU	3
OSU Hosts Twin Conferences	3
From the Director	4
Summer Programs in Eastern Europe	5
Social Welfare in Poland	5
Summer in the Czech Republic	5
Ohio Slavic Calendar	6
New Videos	7
Conferences	7
Allan Wildman Memorial Fund	8

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Irene Masing-Delic, Director

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OSEN
Center for Slavic and
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303 Oxley Hall
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FAX: (614) 292-4273

Semyonov, largely due to more sophisticated equipment such as Israeli drip irrigation. And Belaya Dacha is just one of the many former collectives, state farms, and new start-up enterprises with McDonald's as a major customer.

This means that all these firms must be able to produce at the level of reliability and quality that McDonald's requires--quite high for a country where truckers still sometimes warm their engines on a cold winter morning by building a fire underneath.

By the end of this year, McDonald's plans to open 10 more restaurants in Nizhny Novgorod, including a drive-through, and 10 more by 2000.

McDonald's receives new requests daily from mayors and governors and other officials from across Russia to open an outlet in their locale, says Mr. Ryabov.

Indeed, the world outside US borders is now the best growth market for the iconic American chain. Up against vigorous competition at home from other fast-food chains, McDonald's Corp. now draws 55 percent of

revenues from abroad.

This is all good news for Russia in still another way. A New York Times columnist coined a concept a few months ago that has since received some semi-serious scrutiny: the Golden Arches theory of conflict prevention. The theory holds that no two countries with a McDonald's restaurant within their borders (now more than 100 countries) have ever gone to war against each other. The idea is that McDonald's decides to enter only markets that have achieved a certain level of economic development.

It identified something correctly in Russia: the restaurants are packed.

Russia Still Too Intolerant to Value Sinyavsky's Genius

by
Catherine Nepomnyashchy
and Richard Borden

(Reprinted from the St. Petersburg Times)

Amid the official eulogies and the recitals of personal drama that inevitably surround the deaths of dissident Soviet writers, what is often forgotten is precisely what makes a writer a writer: his artistic achievement. This has probably never been so true or so ironic or so sad as in the case of Andrei Sinyavsky, alias Abram Tertz, who was buried Feb. 28 in the suburban Parisian town of Fontenay aux Roses, where he had lived for over two decades.

The irony lies in the fact that no recent Russian writer has more passionately defended the right of art to be art. More importantly, Sinyavsky was not merely one of the most significant historical, political and cultural figures of the post-Stalin era.

The notorious Tertz-Daniel trial of 1966, in which Sinyavsky defied with unprecedented courage the Soviet monolith in defense of artistic freedom, is justly remembered as the origin of the dissident human rights movement in the Soviet Union. Yet Sinyavsky was always

uncomfortable with being called a dissident in the strictly political sense.

"Dissidence," he once wrote, "turns out to be simply a synonym for art" because all true art is much more than sensational political revelation. True art, for Sinyavsky, challenges accepted notions at the level of language itself, undermining hackneyed formulas and received ideas.

Sinyavsky's "disagreement" with the Soviet regime was indeed, as he claimed, stylistic because he believed only shockingly unexpected turns of phrase, whimsically brilliant metaphors, and sometimes even scabrous irreverence could liberate both writers and readers from the tyranny of mindless political slogans and slavish devotion to conventional ways of thinking.

Thus the essence of Sinyavsky's art was not embodied in the respectable professor of the Sorbonne Andrei Donatovich Sinyavsky, the meticulous scholar and gentleman who wrote a number of critical studies on Russian poetry, but in his disreputable alter ego Abram Tertz, swashbuckling, knife-wielding, common literary criminal. The Tertz pseudonym deliberately conjures up both lawlessness and Jewishness, metaphors for the writer as outsider and pariah.

Yet for all the apparent divergence between the writer's two personas, between mild-mannered, law-abiding Sinyavsky and reckless outlaw Tertz, both have for over 30 years been subjected to virulent and concerted attacks the like of which have been directed toward no other Russian writer in our time.

In later years, Sinyavsky's blunt, idiosyncratic views on politics, especially his deep distrust of conservative Russian nationalists, his outrage at President Boris Yeltsin's bombing of the White House in 1993, and his principled refusal to support the Yeltsin democrats in last year's elections--brought him much abuse. Even more disturbing, perhaps, has been the indignation fired by Tertz's particular genius for pushing readers' culture-sensitive buttons. Most memorable of these was his paean to Russia's great national poet, "Strolls

with Pushkin," in which he drew attention to Pushkin's comic genius.

Perhaps only in a society that has lost both its sense of irony and its appreciation of metaphor could one of the most eloquent and insightful tributes to Pushkin ever conceived, "Strolls with Pushkin," a sparkling celebration of the freedom of linguistic play--which improbably and ironically was composed in a labor camp--and one of the great literary essays of our time, be read as a desecration of a national monument.

At his trial, against the background of the Cold War's polarized world, Sinyavsky pleaded for the right to be neither "for" nor "against," but simply "different." It is precisely his "stylistic" courage in remaining true to his "difference" over the years, that allowed Sinyavsky to preserve and pass along to us the fruits of his extraordinary gift.

Historically a great literary nation, Russia is bound to recover from its decades of cultural devolution, and even to accept and appreciate writers with whom it is not always in agreement.

And then Andrei Sinyavsky will assume his rightful place in the pantheon of Russian letters.

Catherine Nepomnyashchy, the author of "Abram Tertz and the Poetics of Crime," is associate professor of Russian Literature at Barnard College, Columbia University. Richard Borden, who has taught at Columbia and Harvard Universities, resides in Paris.

Mr. Ingersoll Goes To Washington

OSU Libraries Bibliographer for Slavic and East European Studies, Jared Ingersoll-Casey, is resigning his position effective April 22, 1997. Jared has been hired as Senior Librarian at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Library in Washington, D.C.

With three Master's degrees and knowledge of seven East European languages, Jared came to OSU in 1994 with the tools needed to manage our library's annual East European

acquisitions budget of \$160,000. Among those with whom he has worked Jared is known for his cordial professionalism. The Center for Slavic and East European Studies is indebted to him for his years of service to us. In addition to his regular duties, Jared faithfully served on the Slavic Center's Executive Committee and provided a regular contribution to our newsletter, the "Newly Catalogued Books" section, which has been of great benefit to our readers.

One of Jared's last major projects as OSU's Slavic Bibliographer was to create an East European Studies webpage. Now online, this electronic resource is a valuable guide to the East European collection of the library as well as a wealth of other related information. To access it, use the following url:

http://www.lib.ohio-state.edu/OSU_profile/eesweb/

The Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures as well as the Hilandar Research Library are organizing a farewell celebration for Jared. Open to the public, it will be held on Monday, April 21, 1997 from 11am to 1pm at 300 Cunz Hall.

Twin Conferences at OSU in April

by Kerry Sabbag

The Ohio State University will host the jointly-held conferences "Russia's Golden Age" and the Regional AAASS Midwest Slavic Conference at the Holiday Inn on Lane Avenue, just north of the OSU campus. Scholars and students both from around the United States and abroad will gather April 16-18 to honor the upcoming bicentennial of Alexander Sergeevich Pushkin's birth at the conference, "Russia's Golden Age." Panels will focus on topics such as history, linguistics, literature, music, and sociology. In addition, several theatrical and musical performances are

planned including: a piano recital of Golden Age music of the court, a dramatic reading from Griboedov's *Woe from Wit*, a performance of Pushkin's *The Stone Guest*, "An Evening of Russian Arias and Romansy" inspired by Pushkin and other poets of the Golden Age, and a performance by the OSU Slavic folk choir, Rusalka.

The Regional AAASS Midwest Slavic Conference, April 18-20, will offer panels on all areas of Slavic studies including: art, economics, film, history, linguistics, literature, political science, and sociology. A special plenary session is planned for April 19: "Focus on Eastern Europe: New Business Opportunities." The goal of this session, according to conference director George Kalbous, is to "bring together people from the business world, the academic community, ethnic organizations, and government agencies working with the new democracies of Eastern Europe and to provide a unique opportunity to meet each other and establish new ties." Sessions will include: "A View from the Business World," focusing on Midwestern companies successfully operating in Eastern Europe; "Government Ethnic Outreach Programs," with representatives from both state and federal organizations; "Agencies Supporting Eastern European Development," with speakers from USAID and the IMF; "Challenges to the U.S. Ethnic Communities," focusing on the work of Americans of East European heritage and Slavic/Russian and East European Centers. Response to this session has been overwhelming, and it should be an exciting and beneficial event.

Interested members of the community and students are encouraged to attend any or all events. For more information, please see the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literature's webpage at: <http://www.cohums.ohio-state.edu/slavic> or call (614) 292-6733.

From the Director

Spring Quarter brings some changes to the Center and, as usual, many interesting events. The main change is that from April 1st until June 1st, 1997, Professor (Emeritus) Michael Curran from the Department of History will be Acting Director of the Center. I will spend the Spring Quarter and the summer months at the University of Konstanz, Germany, teaching at its Slavic Department. The role of Acting Director for the Center is not new to Professor Curran. This is the second time that he kindly agrees to help the Center out. We greatly appreciate Professor Curran's readiness to return once more to the Director's post and look forward to his experienced guidance.

We have a successful winter quarter to look back on. Our distance learning course (Slavic & East European Studies 694--"Ritual and Rhetoric in Russian Politics") from the Mansfield campus, led by Professor James McLeod, was a great success not only content-wise (that was expected), but also technology-wise. It clearly is possible to create a good classroom atmosphere even when communicating via television screens, at least when the right teacher personality is involved. In a somewhat similar vein we have laid the foundations for distance learning coming all the way from the Russian State University for the Humanities (RGGU). Assisted by the College of the Humanities and the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures, the Center is sponsoring a live lecture ("The Post-Soviet Mentality") from RGGU via the Internet. If everything works out well, this single event will be developed into a lecture series that will keep us updated on recent developments in Russia.

We are pleased to announce that the Law School and the Center have worked out a joint degree that is open to Law Students who wish to develop their careers within an East European-Slavic framework. We hope that other such joint-degrees will follow and are working with other OSU colleges to realize these new cross-school, as well as the existing interdisciplinary, degrees.

An important planned outreach event for the spring is our yearly business seminar. This time the seminar is planned on a grander scale than usual, however, since it is co-sponsored by the law firm, Squire, Sanders, and Dempsey. Our collaboration will enable us to present more speakers, more diversity of areas covered, and type of presentations involved. Our yearly social studies teachers' workshop, to be held in mid-summer, also has innovative features, as the East Asian Studies Center and our Center together will conduct a workshop comparing the communist experiences of China and Russia.

Our very successful Brown Bag series will in the spring offer lectures on Russian history, politics, and architecture, but it also features a significant (non-Russian) East European component with separate lectures on Czech politics and Czech women, along with a presentation on Polish-Jewish painting. For details, please check our calendar of events.

Finally, I wish a resounding success to all of the participants and organizers of the Golden Age Conference to take place in conjunction with the Midwestern Slavic Conference in mid-April. Professor George Kalbous' initiative has led to the creation of a highly innovative type of conference that has all the makings of an outstanding event.

I wish everyone a wonderful spring quarter!

Irene Masing-Delic
CSEES Director

East European Summer Programs

Social Welfare in Eastern Europe: The Polish Experience

August 28 to September 19, 1997

The OSU Study Abroad Program in Poland is designed to introduce Social Work students and others at OSU to social welfare in Eastern Europe with special attention given to social work policy and practice in Poland. This program will also introduce students to the history, culture, and society of Poland. The four week program will consist of an orientation session in Columbus followed by three weeks of lectures and agency visits in historic and beautiful Cracow, Poland. Lectures will be provided in English by faculty from the Jagiellonian University (founded 1364) and OSU (founded 506 years later). Field trips to Warsaw and other sites of cultural interest will be included.

The program is open to juniors, seniors, and graduate students of all majors. Preference, however, will be given to Social Work majors. Applicants with a cumulative GPA of 2.7 and above will be given priority. A maximum of twelve students will be admitted to the program. Students will earn up to six hours of credit in Social Work and additional credit may be earned through independent study. The program fee is \$2,000. This covers OSU tuition, housing, breakfast, and field trips. Students will be responsible for their own lunches and suppers. Airfare is extra. Application deadline is May 2,

1997. To obtain an application, visit the Office of International Education, 101 Oxley Hall MTWF 10am-Noon and 1-4 pm, or Th 1-4pm, or contact Violy Hughes at 292-6101 (hughes.1@osu.edu). For information on the program curriculum, contact Professor Denise E. Bronson at 292-1867 (bronson.6@osu.edu).

Summer in the Czech Republic

by Jeff Holdeman
(written February 1997)

A freezing winter's day in Columbus is the perfect time to think about a warm summer's night in the heart of Moravia. Now is the time to make plans for how you want to spend your summer vacation. Might I suggest a month in the ancient and historical town of Olomouc in the Czech Republic?

Olomouc is a city of about 160,000--the Czech Republic's sixth largest--quiet, peaceful, beautiful and home to the Summer School of Slavonic Studies at the Palacky University. From the end of July to the end of August, the school offers month-long intensive courses in Czech at three levels: beginner, intermediate, and advanced. A morning of language courses, a hearty lunch of "olomouchke tvaruzky," an afternoon lecture on literature, linguistics, or archeology, a stroll through the cobblestone streets to a bookstore or

architectural monument, dinner and a glass of Moravian red wine, a Czech movie at the university in the evening, then a cup of coffee or a Gambrinus from the tap make for a perfect day.

The students at the Summer School come from all across Europe and beyond--in between speaking Czech you can practice your French, Spanish, Italian, German, Russian, Polish, Bulgarian, and even Japanese. A nicer group of people you are not soon to meet. The instructors are lively and talented (singing, dancing, or playing the violin), and ask that you address them in the informal "ty." Three meals a day are taken at your choice of three designated restaurants and are included in the cost of the program. The accommodations are pleasant--the best dormitory at the university and within walking distance of classes and the center of town. You can share a room in a suite with another student or, for an extra fee, have a room to yourself. And a twenty-minute walk from the dorm through the countryside takes you to a picturesque lake perfect for swimming or relaxing. Optional weekend trips (and some weekday jaunts) are planned for you--Prague, Sternberk, Roznov pod Radhostem, Brno, and the rest of Moravia are just a short bus or train trip away.

Sound good? Then maybe a summer in the Czech Republic is in your future. For more information, contact me, Jeff Holdeman, either by campus mail: 232 Cunz Hall, 1841 Millikin Road, CAMPUS; or by e-mail: holdeman.2@osu.edu
Ahoj!

Ohio Slavic Calendar

Friday, April 4

Lecture (4:30pm, 250 Dulles Hall, 230 West 17th Avenue): "Janissaries and Other Riffraff of Ottoman Istanbul: Rebels Without a Cause?" by Professor **Cemal Kafadar**, Department of History, Harvard University. Dr. Kafadar is author of Between Two Worlds: The Formation of the Ottoman State (University of California Press, 1995), co-winner of the 1996 Turkish Studies Association Fuat Koprulu Book Prize. Sponsored by the Middle Eastern Studies Center.

Saturday, April 5

Concert (8pm, Ohio Union Conference Theatre): "Sufi and Folk Music of Turkey," with **Latif Bolat** and his ensemble of vocalists and traditional musicians (includes Azeri songs). Sponsored by the Turkish Students Association, Middle East Studies Center, Near Eastern Judaic & Hellenic Languages & Literatures, International Education, and CSEES.

Tuesday, April 8

Ohio Olympiada for High School Students of Russian (Noon, Cunz Hall). Sponsored by the Department for Slavic & East European Languages & Literatures.

Wednesday, April 9

Brown Bag Lecture (12:30-2pm, 122 Oxley Hall): "Difficulties Establishing Democracy in the Czech Republic: An Insider's View," by **Zdenka Krejcová**, Assistant for Foreign Affairs to the Office for Legislation and Public Administration in the Czech Republic. Ms. Krejcová has degrees from both the Charles University and Palacki University where she specialized in English as well as

Czech literature and language. She is currently a Fulbright Scholar with the OSU Slavic & East European Languages & Literatures Department where she is teaching Czech. Sponsored by CSEES.

Monday, April 14

Lecture (1:30pm, 156 University Hall): "The Vision of Czech Women: One Eye Open," by Dr. **Eva Vesinová**, Director of the Gender Studies Center in Prague. Sponsored by the Departments of History, Political Science, & CSEES.

Wednesday-Friday, April 16-18

Conference (Holiday Inn on Lane Avenue): "Golden Age"

Friday-Sunday, April 18-20

Conference (Holiday Inn on Lane Avenue): "AAASS Midwest Slavic Conference," sponsored by SEELL and CSEES

Monday, April 21

Farewell Celebration for Jared Ingersoll-Casey, OSU Slavic Bibliographer, 11am-1pm, 300 Cunz Hall. Sponsored by the Hilandar Research Library and the Department of Slavic & East European Languages & Literatures

Friday, April 25

Lecture/Film (11:30am-1pm, 122 Oxley Hall): "The Soviet Union's Artificial Famine, 1932-33: An Oral History," by **Daria N. Khubova**, Associate Professor of History and Cultural Studies as well as Director of the Oral History Department of the Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow. Dr. Khubova has written extensively on oral histories of the Soviet period including topics such as collectivization, the famine of 1932-33, and the labor camps, among others. She is currently a Fulbright Scholar at Columbia University. Sponsored by CSEES

and the OSU Department of History and part of the Office of International Education's "International Week."

Sunday, April 27

Easter (Orthodox)

Wednesday, April 30

Brown Bag Lecture (12:30-2pm, 122 Oxley Hall): "The Destiny of Russia: Historical and Modern Aspects of the Problem," by **Boris Kashnikov** of the Ryazan Institute of Law and Economics, currently Fullbright Lecturer with the OSU Department of Philosophy and Visiting Scholar at the Merzhon Center. Dr. Kashnikov will review political and religious perspectives on Russia's destiny from medieval times to the post-communist present. Sponsored by CSEES.

Friday, May 9

Victory Day (Russia)

Friday-Sunday, May 9-11

Lager Gorizont

Monday, May 12

Brown Bag Lecture/Slide Presentation (12:30-2pm, 122 Oxley Hall): "Major Trends in Russian Church Architecture," by **Tatyana A. Anisimova**, Associate Professor of Architecture, Volgograd State University. Dr. Anisimova's research interests include the social, cultural, economic, ecological, and aesthetic aspects of town-planning and the images of a city. She is currently Visiting Professor of Architecture at Mansfield University, Mansfield Pennsylvania. Sponsored by the Fullbright Lecturer program and CSEES.

Wednesday, May 14

Brown Bag Lecture (12:30-2pm, 122 Oxley Hall): "Back in the USSR: The Crossroads of Current

Russian Foreign Policy," by Aleksandr I. Kubyshkin, Division of History and Philosophy, Volgograd State University. Dr. Kubyshkin is a specialist in the history of international relations, especially US relations with Central America in the late 19th and 20th Centuries. He is currently a Fulbright Scholar at Mansfield University, Mansfield, Pennsylvania. Sponsored by the Fulbright Lecturer Program and CSEES.

Mid-May?

Lecture/Slide Presentation (Time, location, TBA) "Coping with Disaster: The Recovery of Jewish Cultural Treasures in Buenos Aires after the 1994 Bombing," by Zachary M. Baker, Head Librarian of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York City. Dr. Baker will focus on the Argentinian branch of the YIVO and its collection of paintings by Maurycy Minkowski (1881-1930), a Polish-Jewish artist. Minkowski, deaf and mute from childhood, became well-known for his paintings depicting pogroms, and for his depiction of women as primary subjects in his paintings. Sponsored by the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures and the Center for Slavic and East European Studies. Call 292-8770 or write to wolf.5@osu.edu for details.

Tuesday, June 3

Business Seminar (8:20am-5pm, Fawcett Center for Tomorrow): "Russia, Poland, and the Czech Republic: Prospects for Trade and Investment." Sponsored by CSEES and Squire, Sanders, & Dempsey. \$100 registration fee. Call 614-292-8770 (or write wolf.5@osu.edu) for registration information and program.

June 12

Independence Day (Russia)

New Videos

Czech

All My Good Countrymen
Cassandra Cat
Firemen's Ball
Loves of a Blonde
My Sweet Little Village

Polish

No End

Russian

Feature Films

Amerikanskaia doch'
Assa
Bumbarash
Chernaia rosa emblema pechala
Erlash
Katerina Izmailova
Komsomol'sk
Korona rossiiskoi imperii
Maugli
Novye priklucheniia neulovymikh
Ochi chernye
Operatsiia S Novym godom
Osobennosti natsional'noi okhoty
Rodnia
Slyzhili dva tovarishcha
Svoi sredi chuzhikh, chuzhoi sredi svoikh
Tri tolstiaka
Troie iz Prostokvashino

Documentary Films

Against the Current
Are You Going to the Ball
Before Gorbachev: From Stalin to Brezhnev
Conversations with Gorbachev
Early on Sunday
Evening Sacrifice
Final Verdict
Homecoming
Scenes at a Fountain
The Tailor
This is How We Live
Tomorrow is a Holiday
The Wood Goblin

Conferences

April 16-20

Two conferences to be held jointly at Ohio State University: "Russia's Golden Age," (April 16-18) a conference in anticipation of the 200th anniversary of Pushkin's birth, and the AAASS Midwest Slavic Conference (April 18-20). Contact George Kalbous or Gail Lewis, Dept. of Slavic Languages, Ohio State U., 43210, tel: 614-292-6733; fax: 614-688-3107.

June 15-22

Symposium: "State and Society in the Stalin Era Through the Prism of Regional Archives," at the University of Toronto. For more information call 416-978-8192, or write: serap@epas.utoronto.ca

7-9 November

"Inventing the Soviet Union: Language, Power, and Representation, 1917-1945," at the Russian and East European Institute at Indiana University. Contact: Choi Chatterjee (Dept. of History, Cal State Univ., Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA 90032) cchatte@calstatela.edu; and Karen Petrone (Dept. History, U of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506; KnpetrO@ukcc.uky.edu).

20-23 November

29th National Convention of the AAASS, hosted by the Western Slavic Association, Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Seattle, Washington.

Allan Wildman Memorial Fund Seeks Contributions

Most of you know by now that Ohio State University's Professor of Russian History, Allan K. Wildman, passed away last fall. Those who knew him, either personally or through his scholarship, recognized in him an outstanding scholar, a gracious colleague, and a superb editor of The Russian Review. But Allan Wildman was a committed teacher as well. He revitalized the graduate program in Russian and East European history at Ohio State, devoting considerable attention and energy to his students.

Realizing that he did not have long to live, Allan Wildman last fall asked that a fund in his memory be established to assist graduate students in Russian and East European history at Ohio State. The Allan Wildman Memorial Fund will support graduate student travel to research collections, libraries, and conferences in this country and abroad. It will also be used for the acquisition of research materials, for specialized language training, and other activities essential for graduate students' academic development. As his students will attest, Allan Wildman held them to the highest standards while simultaneously offering them the strongest encouragement. This fund will perpetuate his legacy.

Allan's wife, Helga, and other members of the Wildman family have pledged the initial contributions. We are asking you to join us and them, not only at Ohio State, but around the country, in fulfilling Allan Wildman's wish. We would like to collect at least \$25,000--the amount necessary to establish a permanent endowment at Ohio State. Should we not succeed in reaching this goal, the contributions would be used for the same purpose for as long as they last.

If you are in a position to make a donation to this fund, please make your check payable to "The Ohio State University" and write "Allan Wildman Memorial Fund" on the memo line. Checks should be mailed to Ms. Christine Burton, Department of History, Ohio State University, 106 Dulles Hall, 230 West 17th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43210-1367.

Thank you for joining us in commemorating Allan.

Katherine David-Fox, OSU
David L. Hoffmann, OSU
Alex. Rabinowitch, Indiana U.
James P. Scanlan, OSU

Tsuyoshi Hasegawa, UC Santa Barbara
Eve Levin, OSU
Donald J. Raleigh, U of North Carolina
Rex A. Wade, George Mason U.

Center for Slavic & East European Studies
303 Oxley Hall
1712 Neil Avenue
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